

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace Paragraph [0003], [0008], [0009], [0010], [0011], [0016], [0018], [0019] and [0024] with the following paragraph rewritten in amendment format:

[0003] In some designs of a planer, the chips or [shaving] shavings are directed using a deflector which directs the shavings or chips side ways from the planer. A fan or impeller mounted on the drive shaft of the motor can be used to generate an airflow which can be used to assist in the removal of the shavings or chips. DE19512262 discloses such a system. However, the problem with existing designs is [are] that they are not efficient at mixing the air flow with the shavings or chips to entrain them for removal.

[0008] Mounted within cavity 14 of the body 2 of the planer is an electric motor 15 (shown schematically) [(not shown)]. The electric motor 15 rotatingly drives the cutting drum 6 via a drive belt (not shown). Cutting blades 16 are mounted within the cutting drum 6 and [which] cut the workpiece upon which the planer is mounted as [on] the cutting drum rotates. The cutting blades 16, as the drum 6 rotates, periodically pass through the aperture 18 and below the shoe to cut the workpiece in a well known manner. The construction of the electric motor 15, the cutting drum 6, the cutting blades 16 and the belt drive system are well known in the art and are therefore not discussed any further.

[0009] Formed through the full width of the body 2 of the planar is a tubular exhaust aperture 24 having two entrances: first exhaust aperture 25 and second exhaust aperture 27. A deflector 26 which is described in more detail below can be inserted into the aperture 24 from

either side. This enables the shavings or chips to be directed to either side of the planar. A plastic cap (not shown) is used to seal the other aperture.

[0010] Referring to Figure [figure] 3, the deflector 26 in accordance with the present invention is shown. The deflector 26 comprises two sections 28, 30. The first outer section 28 is a tube of circular cross-section which, when the deflector 26 is inserted into the aperture 24 of the planer, projects outwardly [sidewaysly] from the body 2 of the planer shown in Figure 2. The second section 30 is a curved section. The curved section has a substantially U shaped cross-section which forms a trough 31 which curves over its length. The sides 32 of the U-shaped curved trough 31 have been flattened as best seen in Figures [figures] 4 and 5. This results in a ridge 34 along the length of the curved section 30 where the flat surface 32 meets with a curved surface 36 of the U shaped cross section. The shape of the cross-section of the curved section 30 of the deflector 26 is such that it fits snugly into the aperture 24 in the side wall of the body 2 of the planer in order to hold the deflector 26 securely and preventing it from rotating within the aperture 24. Formed between the two sections 28, 30 is an annular rib 38 which surrounds the circumference of the deflector 26. The outer diameter of the annular rib 38 is greater than the diameter of the aperture 24 and thus prevents the deflector 26 from being inserted too far into the planer. When the deflector 24 is located within the body 2 of the planer, the rib 38 abuts against a side wall of the body 2 of a planer, the tubular section 28 remaining outside of the body. The rib is angled 35 in relation to the longitudinal axis 33 of the tubular section 28 so that it is less than ninety degrees as shown in Figure 3. This is to allow the tubular section to point upwards when located within the body of the planer. The deflector 26 is formed as a one-piece construction and is made from plastic molded [moulded] into the appropriate shape.

[0011] Mounted on the drive spindles of the motor 15 is [of] a fan 39 (shown schematically) [(not shown)] which generates an airflow. The air is directed into a cavity 40 formed in the body of the planer. The air then passes through a conduit 42 over the top wall 44 which forms the top wall of the aperture 24. The direction of the airflow is indicated by Arrows W. The airflow is then directed downwardly to an area 46 in the body 2 forward of the wall 48 of the recess 50 in which the drum 6 is mounted. An expulsion aperture 52 is formed in the wall 48 of the recess 50 [52] forward of the cutting drum 6 through which any debris created by the cutting action of the blades 16 would be thrown by the rotating blades 16. The airflow W is directed within the body to a point 46A below the expulsion aperture 52 in the wall of the recess and is directed to be blown across the aperture 52 within the body in a direction W having an acute angle to the direction of travel of any debris (shown by Arrow T) in order to entrain the debris in the airflow within the body.

[0016] A third embodiment of the planer will now be described with reference to Figure 16. Where the same features are shown in the third [second] embodiment as those in the first, the same reference numbers have been used. The third [second] embodiment is [exactly the same as] similar to the first embodiment except that a secondary vent 56 has been added within the body above the area 46 in the body 2 forward of the wall 48 of the recess 50 in which the drum 6 is mounted. The secondary vent 56 directs air into the path of the air with entrained debris at an acute angle approximately at the same height as the top of the expulsion aperture 52 formed in the wall 48 of the recess 52 forward of the cutting drum 6 through which any debris created by the cutting action of the blades 16 would be thrown by the rotating blades 16. It will

be appreciated that the vent 56 can be located slightly lower [down] relative to the adjacent [the] aperture 52.

[0018] The curved pivotal flap 200 is mounted about an axis 202 which extends in a vertical plane through the center [centre] of the width of the body 2 of the planer. The axis 202 is angled downwardly by a small amount relative to the horizontal so that the curved pivotal flap 200 pivots between an internal wall 206 of the body of the planer forming the top wall of the aperture 24 to the bottom side wall 208 of the entrance of the aperture 24. The curved pivotal flap 200 extends from the axis of pivot 202 to the right side 204 of the body 2 of the planer as shown in Figures 17 and 18. The curved pivotal flap 200 is capable of pivoting from a position indicated by reference letter Q through the position indicated by reference letter R shown in dashed lines in Figure [figure] 17 to a position indicated by reference letter S also indicated in Figure [figure] 17 by dashed lines but shown as a solid line in Figure 18. A spring 209 [(not shown)] biases the curved pivotal flap to the lower position indicated by reference letter Q as shown in Figure [figure] 17.

[0019] When the deflector 26 is not located within the planer, the curved pivotal flap 200 is biased to a downward position indicated by reference letter Q. When the flap 200 is located in this position, it forms an upper wall for right half of the aperture 24 as viewed in Figure [figure] 17 which is aligned with the upper wall 210 of the left hand side of the aperture 24 formed by the internal structure of the body 2 [to] of the planer to produce a continuous curved upper surface of the aperture 24. When the curved pivotal flap is in its downward position, it completely blocks the right hand entrance 212 to the aperture 24 from the chamber 214 where the air and entrained debris pass from the drum in order to be expelled.

[0024] Mounted within the rectangular plastic frame are two C shaped locking members 118 as shown in Figure [figure] 11 which are used to lock the receptacle 102 to the end cap 100. The method of mounting is not shown. The two C shaped locking members 118 are mounted within the rectangular plastic frame 114 so that the ends 120 of each of the two arms of the C shaped locking members 118 face each other as shown in Figure [figure] 11. Formed on the ends of the two arms of the two C shaped locking members 118 are pegs 122 which project outwardly. Helical springs 124 are mounted between the ends 120 of each pair of corresponding arms in order to bias the two C shaped locking members 118 outwardly away from each other as indicated by Arrows X. Rod 126 [Rod s126] is mounted within the helical springs to keep the helical springs 124 in position. Holes are formed within the rectangular plastic frame to enable the fingers of an operator to engage with the two C shaped locking members to push them towards each other against the biasing force of the springs 124.